

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A flat card receiving device (1), in particular a flat card receiving device for a tachograph in a motor vehicle, ~~which card receiving the device comprising:~~
~~- means for drawing~~~~draws~~ ~~a~~ ~~the~~ card (2) completely into a device its interior,
~~- has an elongate receiving opening through which the card (2) passes into the card receiving device (1) in an insertion direction (9), and has~~
~~- a locking unit (29) which has including at least one locking element (30r, 30l) which can arranged to be moved into the a clear cross section of the receiving opening,~~
~~- characterized in that wherein the locking element (30r, 30l) has includes at least one abutment area (39r, 39l) arranged to touch~~~~which touches the a~~ card (2) located within the card receiving device (1) at the an outwardly pointing end face (31) or in the a region of a corner or rounded section of the card (2) which adjoins this an end face (31), and at least temporarily presses said card in the insertion direction (9).
2. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that further comprising means for moving the card (2) moves~~ in the insertion direction (9) essentially in an insertion plane (4).
3. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, ~~characterized in that~~ the locking element (30r, 30l) is arranged to be rotatably mounted about a first rotation axis (20r, 20l).
4. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the first rotation axis (20r, 20l) runs perpendicular to the insertion plane (4) of the card (2).

5. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the card receiving device (1) has further comprises:

- a slotted-link-like first guide (34r, 34l), and
- wherein the locking element (30r, 30l) has comprises a first guide element (35r, 35l) in the form of being a sliding block, the locking element (30r, 30l) can is arranged to be moved into a locking position and out of the locking position by means of the first guide (35r, 35l) and the first guide element-(35r, 35l), as well as pivoting in particular can be pivoted about a first rotation axis (20r, 20l).

6. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 5, characterized in that further comprising an actuating lever arranged to be rotated about a second rotation axis, the lever comprising the slotted-link-like first guide (34r, 34l) is a constituent part of an actuating lever (36) which can be rotated about a second rotation axis (20r, 20l).

7. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 5, wherein, characterized in that the locking element (30r, 30l) has comprises an abutment piece (37r, 37l) which arranged to be is movably fitted to said locking element, so as to at least temporarily bears against the card (2) at the outwardly pointing end face (31) or in the region of a corner (32) or rounded section of the card (2) which adjoins this the end face, and at least temporarily presses the card (2) in the insertion direction (9).

8. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 7, characterized in that wherein the abutment piece (37r, 37l) is spring-mounted on the locking element (30r, 30l).

9. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 7 and 8 according to claim 7, characterized in that wherein the abutment piece is spring-mounted by means of a first leaf spring (38l, 38r).

10. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 7 and 9 according to claim 7, wherein, characterized in that the abutment piece (37r, 37l) is movably mounted on the locking element (30r, 30l) essentially tangentially or at an acute angle to the a circumferential direction of the first rotation axis (20r, 20l) of the locking element (30r, 30l).

11. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 7 to 10 according to claim 7, wherein, characterized in that the abutment piece comprises an abutment area (39r, 39l) on the abutment piece (37r, 37l) is oriented obliquely to the a direction of movement of the abutment piece (37r, 37l) in relation to the locking element (30r, 30l), said abutment area arranged to bear bearing against the card (2) at an outwardly pointing corner (32) or rounded section during an inward-movement phase.

12. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, further comprising, characterized in that an arresting element (51) is fitted to at least one locking element (30r, 30l), such that it can be moved to an “arrested position”; and arrests the locking unit (29) in a “locked position”.

13. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 12, characterized in that wherein the an arresting element (51) is fitted precisely to a locking element (30r, 30l).

14. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 12 and 13 and at least one of claims 7 to 9 according to claim 12, wherein, characterized in that the arresting element (51) is arranged to restrict restricts the mobility of the abutment piece (37r, 37l) in the “arrested position”.

15. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 14, characterized in that wherein the abutment piece (37r, 37l) has so much sufficient play with respect to the arresting element (51) in the "arrested position" such that it can move in a sprung manner within tolerances of the card (2) to width, length and form, and the abutment piece (37r, 37l) has so sufficiently little play with respect to the arresting element (51) in the "arrested position" that the clear width of the receiving opening is blocked to such an extent that the card (2) cannot be removed.

16. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 14 and 15 according to claim 14, wherein, characterized in that the arresting element (51) is arranged to be movably fitted to the locking element (30r, 30l).

17. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 16 according to claim 14, wherein, characterized in that the arresting element (51) is arranged to be movable can move in a translatory fashion in relation to the locking element (30r, 30l) and is mounted on the locking element (30r, 30l) such that it can slide.

18. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 14 to 17 according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that the arresting element (51) is arranged to can be controlled and moved by means of an actuating lever (36).

19. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that said card receiving device further comprises has two locking elements (30r, 30l) which are arranged in mirror-image fashion with respect to one another on a middle plane of a receiving shaft (40) which is oriented perpendicular to the insertion plane (4), and at the side of the receiving shaft (40).

20. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that the card receiving

device (1) has further comprises a stop (41) for the card (2) at the end of a receiving shaft (40).

21. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that~~ the card (2) is permanently pressed against the stop (41) in the end position by means of an elastic element.

22. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 7 to 9 and at least one of claims 20 and 21 according to claim 7, wherein, characterized in that~~ the card (2) is permanently pressed against the stop (41) in the end position by means of the abutment piece (37r, 37l).

23. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 20 to 22 according to claim 20, wherein, characterized in that~~ the stop (41) is fixed to a set (57) of contacts.

24. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~according to claim 23, characterized in that~~ wherein the card receiving device (1) has further comprises a closure means (6) which extends in the longitudinal direction of the receiving opening and blocks the receiving opening in the "closed position" of the closure means (6).

25. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 23 and 24 according to claim 23, wherein, characterized in that~~ the closure element (7) can be moved in the normal direction of the insertion plane (4) for the travel required to receive the card (2).

26. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 23 to 25 according to claim 23, wherein, characterized in that~~ the closure element (7) is spring-mounted on the card receiving device (1) by means of at least one elastic element.

27. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in according to claim 26, characterized in that wherein the elastic element is a second leaf spring (11), and the second leaf spring (11) can-is arranged to be blocked in the "closed position" of the closure means (6) by means of the locking element (30r, 30l) of the locking unit (29).

28. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 23 to 27according to claim 23, wherein, characterized in that the closure element (7) is integrally fitted to at least one second leaf spring (11).

29. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of claims 23 to 28according to claim 23, wherein, characterized in that the closure element (7) is spring-mounted in the normal direction of the insertion plane (4) for the travel required to receive the card (2).

30. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims 23 to 29according to claim 23, wherein, characterized in that the closure means (6) can-is arranged to be locked in the "closed position" by means of the locking unit (29).

31. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, characterized wherein that the locking element (30r, 30l) of the locking unit (29) is arranged to can-be moved and/or, particularly rotated, in a plane essentially parallel to the card (2) moving in the card receiving device (1).

32. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein the card is arranged to be, characterized in that the card (2) can-be automatically drawn in.

33. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that the card (2) is arranged to can be automatically ejected.

34. (currently amended) The card receiving device (1) as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims according to claim 1, wherein, characterized in that the card receiving device (1) has further comprises a set (57) of contacts for making contact with the card (2).

35. (currently amended) A method for receiving a card (2) in a card receiving device (1), in particular the card being substantially flat and the receiving device being configured for operation within a flat card receiving device for a tachograph in a motor vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

- drawing which the card by the card receiving device draws a card (2) completely into an insertion plane (4), the device comprising has an elongate receiving opening through which the card (2) passes into a receiving shaft (40) of the card receiving device (1), the receiving device further comprising and has a locking unit (29) which has having at least one locking element (30r, 30l) which can arranged to be moved into the a clear cross section of the receiving opening,

- characterized in that temporarily bearing upon the card by the locking element (30r, 30l) temporarily bears the card (2) located in the card receiving device (1) at the outwardly pointing end face (31) or in the region of a corner (32) or rounded section of the card (2) which adjoins this end face (31), and

- at least temporarily presses pressing the card (2) in the insertion direction (9).

36. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 35, characterized in that wherein the locking element (30r, 30l) permanently presses the card (2) against a stop (41) during writing operations and/or reading operations.

37. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

- clamping upon the card with a clamping unit, in a first step,
- transporting the card into the receiving device in a second step, characterized in that a clamping unit clamps the card (2) in a first step, the card (2) is transported into the card receiving device (1) in a second step,
- releasing the clamping action in a third step, the clamping action of the clamping unit is released from the card (2) in a third step, and
- pushing the card, with the locking unit (29) pushes the card (2) to an end position in a fourth step.

38. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 35, characterized in that wherein, in a the fourth step, the locking unit (29) pushes the card (2) to an end position in which first contacts (56) of a set (57) of contacts are connected to contact areas on the card (2).

39. (currently amended) The method as claimed in according to claim 38 further comprising the step of claim 35, characterized reading in that information is read from the card (2) or stored in the card (2) in a fifth step.